



COLUMBIA EMPIRE VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Open Power League Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 15, 2025 – 5:00 PM via Zoom

Members Present

Brian Wodke, Shyanna Davis, Autumn Hilberg, Michael Brown.

Members Absent

Adam Ellis

Guests Present

Cara Freeman

Staff Present

Cody March

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 5:03 PM.
- Quorum is present at roll call.
- Guests on the call were recognized.

Member Introductions

- Each person on the call introduced themselves to the group and provided their role & club affiliation.

Purpose

- Cody reviewed the purpose and goals of the workgroup and thanked the group for serving.

Communication

- The group has a shared e-mail address that can be used to communicate with all members and the CEVA staff.

Open PL Logistics & Formatting

- Cody informed the group that the qualifier would likely be at the Portland Expo Center, but that has not been publicly announced because a contract is not signed.
- Qualifier dates have been set for December 13-14.
- Michael reviewed the format model he presented to the Junior Girls' Committee in July. It was not formally adopted by that group. The document was shared during the meeting and will be sent separately. Discussion points:
 - Determining how many teams would be guaranteed to get into Open Power League solely based on their seed going into the event.
 - Presented model is based on 48 teams, but there is recognition we will likely have more than 48 teams register.
 - Teams per division/grouping – 16 in this model.

- Starting seeds vs. finishing seeds from last year and using various information to determine initial seeding this year (initial seeding is important if certain teams are guaranteed to advance in Open simply based on seed coming into PLQ).
 - 2025 data shared during the meeting and will be sent separately.
- Value of matches between highly disparate seeds (e.g., 1 vs. 52) – safety concerns of 18s playing 14s, etc.
- Other discussion points:
 - 14s playing in Open
 - Separating 14s from remainder of Open – or investigating something like the Platinum model we had for older divisions.
 - Seeding methodology and process – what information we should ask for/require of clubs.
 - Rosters?
 - State finishes?
 - General notes/information?
 - Seed challenges
 - Timeline is tight with hypothetical December 3 seeding meeting and December 13 Qualifier – with the knowledge we likely need to publish schedules on Tuesday or Wednesday prior to Qualifier starting.
 - Committee consensus was to not permit challenges.
- Note – a formal motion was made to recommend to the JGC that 14s teams be prohibited from participating in Open. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Seeding

- The group expressed a desire to take over seeding Open Power League.

Future Scheduling

- Tabled

Action Items:

- Michael to continue refinement of Open PLQ structure with goal of finalizing at next meeting.
 - Individuals can reach out to Michael to ask questions or assist if able.
- Cody to send 2025 start/finish data & copy of current Open PLQ structure to committee.
- Cody to send full e-mail list to committee with an update to Autumn's e-mail address.
- [Not discussed but will action] Cody to create a separate registration form for Open PL teams, with ability to add separate questions for specific information about Open teams.
- Cody to review seed challenge policy.
- Cody to work with Cara on December 3 scheduling.

Next Meeting

- Monday, October 13, 2025 – 6:00 PM via Zoom
- [Tentative] Wednesday, December 3, 2025 – 5:00 PM via Zoom

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM.